

Special Report - Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia

March 24, 2026

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Overview

- **Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia** (حركة اصحاب اليمين الإسلامية) is a militant organization that emerged publicly in March 2026 after claiming responsibility for a **series of attacks targeting Jewish institutions in Europe**. The attacks occurred between March 9–14, 2026, and included incidents in **Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands**.¹ Despite its sudden emergence and lack of a known operational history, the group released **statements and videos claiming responsibility shortly after each incident**.



A statement published by The Islamic Movement of the Companions of the Right

Operational Activity

- The group first appeared following a coordinated sequence of attacks on Jewish institutions across multiple European countries within one week. These included:
 - An explosion at a synagogue in **Liège, Belgium** (March 9)
 - An attack on a Jewish site in **Greece** (March 11) - The attack **has not been confirmed** and may constitute **disinformation**²
 - An arson attack on a synagogue in **Rotterdam, Netherlands** (March 13)
 - An explosion outside a Jewish school in **Amsterdam** (March 14)
 - An explosion outside an office building near the **World Trade Center in Amsterdam** (March 15)³
 - An arson attack on Jewish ambulance service in **London, UK** (March 23)⁴
 - An arson attack targeting a vehicle in a Jewish neighborhood in **Antwerp,**

¹<https://elmanshar.com/2026/03/14/%D9%85%D9%86-%D9%87%D9%8A-%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%A3%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%A7%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9%D8%9F-%D8%AC%D9%85/>

²<https://icct.nl/publication/hybrid-threat-signals-assessing-possible-iranian-involvement-recent-attacks-europe>

³<https://www.jpost.com/international/islamic-terrorism/article-890114>

⁴<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/europe-antisemitism-attacks-group-threatens-us-israel-interests-worldwide/>

Belgium (March 23)⁵

- Additionally, Dutch authorities foiled a planned bombing attack in **Heemstede, Netherlands** (March 23), which may have been linked to Ashab al-Yamin; however, **no confirmed connection to the group** has been established at this time
- Although most attacks caused **property damage** rather than casualties, analysts believe their primary purpose was **psychological impact, intimidation of Jewish communities, and propaganda messaging**.⁶
- Videos documenting the attacks were circulated rapidly on Telegram channels associated with Shiite militant networks aligned with Iran, including channels linked to **Hezbollah** and the **Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)**.
- Following the most recent attack in Amsterdam on March 15, the group claimed responsibility and released a video online announcing its involvement. The clip included the message: “In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. **This is the Final Warning**. To all the people of the world, especially in the European Union, **immediately distance yourselves from all American and Zionist** interests, facilities, and what is affiliated with them.”⁷
 - The statement suggests a **potential escalation** in the group’s rhetoric, indicating the possibility of more severe attacks in the future if cooperation with Israel and the United States continues.

Ideology and Messaging

- The group’s statements rely heavily on Islamic religious rhetoric, including Quranic verses and calls for jihad.⁸ Its messaging frequently refers to “mujahideen” and “knights of the shadows,” framing the attacks as part of a broader religious struggle.⁹
- The name “**Ashab al-Yamin**” (“**Companions of the Right**”) originates from Quranic terminology describing the righteous who receive their record in their right hand on Judgment Day. Analysts note that the name was likely chosen for its dual theological meaning:¹⁰
 - In **Sunni** interpretation, it refers broadly to righteous believers.
 - In **Shiite** interpretation, it can refer specifically to followers of Imam Ali.

⁵<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-891011>

⁶<https://arabic.euronews.com/2026/03/13/following-attacks-on-jewish-synagogues-in-europe-an-israeli-report-reveals-the-mystery-of>

⁷<https://www.jpost.com/international/islamic-terrorism/article-890114>

⁸<https://arabic.euronews.com/2026/03/13/following-attacks-on-jewish-synagogues-in-europe-an-israeli-report-reveals-the-mystery-of>

⁹<https://arabic.euronews.com/2026/03/13/following-attacks-on-jewish-synagogues-in-europe-an-israeli-report-reveals-the-mystery-of>

¹⁰<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/>

- This dual interpretation allows the group to present a **universal Islamic narrative** while simultaneously signaling ideological alignment with Shiite militant networks.
- The group’s statements also referenced historical battles such as **Khaybar and Badr**, commonly used in militant propaganda to frame modern conflict within early Islamic historical narratives.

Visual Identity

- The organization’s logo depicts a raised arm holding a rifle pointed to the right with a globe behind it. This design **closely resembles the symbols used by Iranian-aligned militant groups** such as:
 - Hezbollah (Lebanon)
 - Kataib Hezbollah (Iraq)
 - Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (Iran)



Logos of Shiite militant organizations, clockwise from top left: Ashab al-Yamin, Hezbollah, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), and Kataib Hezbollah

- However, the group’s emblem features a **Dragunov sniper rifle**, rather than the AK-47 commonly used in logos of other Iran-aligned groups. Analysts suggest this difference may be intentional, serving as a tactic to create plausible deniability and obscure direct

attribution.¹¹¹²

- Additionally, media reports noted that in the video released by the group following the March 15 attack in Amsterdam, the **logo displayed at the end differs from those used in its previous materials**. While it still features an outstretched arm holding an Dragunov sniper rifle pointed to the right, the background now depicts a red flag and olive branches instead of the globe seen in earlier versions.¹³ This variation may support the assessment that such inconsistencies are deliberately employed to create plausible deniability and complicate direct attribution.



Logo displayed in a video released following the March 15 attack in Amsterdam

Possible Organizational Links

- Open-source intelligence analysis suggests that the name “**Ashab al-Yamin**” may not represent a completely new organization but could instead be linked to the Iraqi militia

¹¹<https://elkanshar.com/2026/03/14/%D9%85%D9%86-%D9%87%D9%8A-%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%A3%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%A7%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9%D8%9F-%D8%AC%D9%85/>

¹²<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/>

¹³<https://www.jpost.com/international/islamic-terrorism/article-890114>

Harakat Ansar Allah al-Awfiya (HAAA).¹⁴

- HAAA was designated as a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department in June 2024 and has previously used the alias “Ashab al-Yamin.” The timing of the European attacks is notable: they occurred shortly after the reported killing of an HAAA leader in a joint U.S.–Israeli operation on February 28, 2026. The attacks may therefore represent retaliatory messaging aligned with Iranian-backed militant networks.
- Following the March 15 attack in Amsterdam, a pro-Iranian account on X circulated a video released by Ashab al-Yamin after the incident, stating in the accompanying caption that the group is affiliated with the “Iraqi resistance.”¹⁵

Operational Model

- The attacks suggest a **decentralized operational model**¹⁶ consistent with patterns previously associated with Iranian proxy operations. Key characteristics include:
 - Creation of a previously unknown militant group immediately before operations
 - Dissemination of attack footage through established militant media networks
 - Limited operational footprint and lack of official communication channels¹⁷
- This model allows the sponsoring network to **conduct operations while maintaining plausible deniability.**

Local Operational Cells

- Investigations in the Netherlands indicate that local actors may have carried out some of the attacks. Following the Rotterdam synagogue arson, Dutch police arrested four individuals aged 17–19 from the city of Tilburg after stopping a suspicious vehicle near another synagogue.¹⁸
- Authorities suspect the suspects may have been preparing additional attacks. While their identities and backgrounds have not been publicly disclosed, the arrests suggest the possibility that local actors were used as operational executors.

¹⁴<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/>

¹⁵https://x.com/iranin_arabic/status/2033362379837211041

¹⁶<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/?trackingId=i%2Bl1204cQoerGdenVZl2Tg%3D%3D>

¹⁷<https://arabic.euronews.com/2026/03/13/following-attacks-on-jewish-synagogues-in-europe-an-israeli-report-reveals-the-mystery-of>

¹⁸https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2026/03/13/dutch-police-arrest-four-over-rotterdam-synagogue-fire_6751421_4.html

- Two possible recruitment mechanisms are being considered:¹⁹
 - **Directed lone actors** – individuals radicalized online who acted independently after exposure to propaganda.
 - **Contracted operatives** – local criminals or youth recruited and paid through intermediaries, similar to models previously used by Iranian networks in Europe.
- The subsequent attack on a Jewish school in Amsterdam the night after the Rotterdam arrests suggests that multiple operational cells may be active simultaneously.²⁰

Strategic Assessment

- Evidence collected through OSINT analysis indicates that Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia may function as a **front organization connected to the Iranian “Axis of Resistance.”**^{21,22,23} Indicators supporting this assessment include:
 - **Immediate distribution** of attack footage through IRGC-linked Telegram channels
 - **Symbolic and rhetorical alignment** with Iranian proxy groups
 - The use of a **previously documented alias** linked to Harakat Ansar Allah al-Awfiya (HAAA), an Iraqi organization designated as a terrorist entity by the U.S. Department of State.²⁴
 - **Operational patterns** consistent with Iran’s known use of proxy or front groups abroad
 - The attacks appear designed primarily to generate psychological impact, intimidate Jewish communities in Europe, and signal Iran’s ability to project influence beyond the Middle East.

¹⁹<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/?trackingId=i%2B1204cQoeRGdeNVZl2Tg%3D%3D>

²⁰<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/?trackingId=i%2B1204cQoeRGdeNVZl2Tg%3D%3D>

²¹<https://www.islamist-movements.com/73080>

²²<https://arabic.euronews.com/2026/03/13/following-attacks-on-jewish-synagogues-in-europe-an-israeli-report-reveals-the-mystery-of>

²³<https://elmanshar.com/2026/03/14/%D9%85%D9%86-%D9%87%D9%8A-%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%A3%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%A7%D8%A8-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9%D8%9F-%D8%AC%D9%85/>

²⁴<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/%D7%94%D7%A6%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%AA%D7%99-%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%A1%D7%AA-%D7%91%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A4%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%9E%D7%A1%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%9C-%D7%9E%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%9F-%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%93-%D7%9C%D7%A0%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%99-%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%97-roy-ben-horin-q9rpf/?trackingId=i%2B1204cQoeRGdeNVZl2Tg%3D%3D>

Security Implications

- The geographic spread of the attacks across multiple European countries within a short timeframe suggests the presence of transnational coordination networks. European security agencies are currently investigating whether the group represents:
 - A newly established militant organization
 - A temporary operational front for existing Iranian-aligned militias
 - A decentralized network of locally recruited actors directed remotely
- Regardless of its final attribution, the emergence of Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia highlights the increasing risk of **proxy-enabled or digitally coordinated attacks targeting Jewish institutions in Europe.**